

Dr. Jackman

OCT 8 1958

MEMO TO: Headquarters Staff
FROM: Office of Press and Publications
RE: Annual Report for 1958

Please note: new deadlines are being set this year to telescope the preparation time. Kindly note the deadlines affecting you below and plan accordingly.

"TOWARD A PROPHETIC CHURCH FOR OUR DAY" will be the theme of the 1958 Annual Report. The report will be based upon the statement of the same title-- subtitled "A Summons to Action," which was approved by the first General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A. We would suggest that you re-read this statement as you think of your own unit's report, and consider all five "areas of thrust" outlined for our new, united Church.

WE CALL ATTENTION PARTICULARLY to the first paragraph of Area of Thrust IV: "To call upon the Agencies of the General Assembly of the new Church speedily to present to the Church the most urgent elements of their present programs to challenge the Church to significant advance in all areas of concern." This will be the key sentence in presenting the Board of National Missions 1958 Annual Report.

THE REPORT WILL BE BASICALLY A LOOK AHEAD toward the results that we can expect from the merger of the Board of American Missions of the United Presbyterian Church of North America and the Board of National Missions of the Presbyterian Church of the U.S.A. It will be organized roughly on the basis of departmental responsibilities, with an introductory chapter relating the "Summons to Action" to major national missions concerns.

THE WRITER OF THE MAJOR PORTION OF THE REPORT WILL BE MR. LUTHER DIMMITT, who did such an excellent job on our 1957 Report. He will base his material on interviews with department administrators. These interviews will be scheduled throughout October, according to the dates he sets up with each of you. His deadline to us is December 15.

PLEASE BE PREPARED to give Mr. Dimmitt an appraisal of the present emphases of your department in relation to current concerns of the Church; your department's major targets for the immediate years ahead to carry out the General Assembly's "Summons to Action;" and some specific, colorful examples--gleaned from your regular and annual reports from the field--of the type of urgent elements of programs that can be cited in concurrence with the directives of the 170th General Assembly.

NEW CHURCH DEVELOPMENT (the usual statistical chapter) and ADMINISTRATION (to include Jarvie, Field Service Personnel, Board and Staff, and Missionary Personnel) will be handled separately, as in the past. New Church Development material should be sent directly to this office as soon as figures are available--we hope not later than January 15. The Administrative material should be in our hands by January 1.

TREASURY AND STATISTICAL INFORMATION DEADLINES will be deferred to concur with the usual accounting dates. We hope the following deadlines can be met:

Ed and Med statistics--as of the beginning of the school year--to be received for compilation in the Administrative Secretary's office by December 1.

Other statistical tabulations--as of December 1--to reach the Administrative Secretary's office by December 15.

All statistical tables to be in the Press and Publications office by January 15.

Treasurer's Report to be sent direct to the printer as auditors release individual statements.

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, don't hesitate to get in touch with the Office of Press and Publications. It is our eternal hope that the last-minute frantic rush of meeting the printer's deadlines can be avoided. We will be most grateful for your help in achieving that goal this year.

TOWARD A PROPHETIC CHURCH FOR OUR DAY

A Summons To Action

Approved by the 170th General Assembly
of
The United Presbyterian Church in the
United States of America

Moved as we have been by the mighty work of God's Hand to effect the union of our two Churches, we bow before the Lord with joyous gratitude and fervent praise.

In view of the Statement "In Unity--For Mission" this General Assembly has addressed to its congregations, born out of the searching penetration of our souls and the enlargement of our vision; thereby alerting us to a new awareness of the crucial relevance of the Gospel to the day in which we live, the Church is summoned to prayerful vigorous, and effective action.

The new, united Church has no alternative but to meet this challenge. Our union dare not be merely structural, glorifying in size, organization, or financial posture; it must dare to be prophetic--united to fulfill God's purpose: A unity justified by mission.

Therefore, we recommend five areas of thrust to be emphasized in the initial program of the new, united Church;

I. To glorify God through worship, spiritual disciplines, and personal dedication. Central to all else must be the worship of the living God. Sound it with the note of trumpets that "man's chief end is to glorify God and to enjoy Him forever." By the crucifixion and the resurrection, Christ has laid hold of history, and is enthroned as history's Lord. The Kingdom not made with hands is established. The King has come! He reigns, now; and no man can escape the imperatives involved. Let JESUS IS LORD ring from every pulpit, and command every Christian heart.

This means worship--corporate and individual. It means our motivation is adoration and dedication. It means renewed intensive study of and response to the Scripture; searching with expectancy the Word of the living God--dynamic, directing, divine. It means prayer, and penitence, and commitment. In a word, it means a church with her Lord enthroned, and a people waiting upon their knees. This is the only process that will produce a church enlivened with the "power of His resurrection," prepared to share in the "fellowship of His suffering," and made ready to say in response to the woeful need of our time: "Here am I, send me."

It also means in the exercise of spiritual disciplines the systematic use of our possessions. The financial resources of the Church must be

committed to Christ on the basis of a stewardship commensurate with spiritual responsibility and the far-flung task of the total Church.

II. To engage the whole Church in a fresh study of the Church in a fresh study of the tenets of our Reformed faith, their relevance to the crucial issues of our time, and how they must be applied today.

The Church must re-affirm and apply the principles of our Reformed faith to the crucial issues of our time. To fail to know what we believe, why we believe it, and what it requires in meeting the problems of our day, is to forsake our heritage. The blazing contemporary issues such as the threat to freedom, war and peace, racism, economic imperialism, the deteriorating standards of home and family life, conflicting goals in education, youth delinquency, violation of property, and defiance of law and order devolve, in part, for their solutions upon citizens who hold membership in our Church. The Church itself cannot escape responsibility for seeking Christian answers to these problems. The principles inherent in our Reformed faith put moral fibre into the civic actions of our forefathers, and are paramount to adequate solutions today.

III. To emphasize that Christ has committed His mission to the whole membership of His Body, the Church, and has not reserved it to the professional worker and minister.

This apostolic community as a whole is a "chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people," called to declare His wonderful acts to all creation. (I Pet.2:9)

Mere organization and program are not enough. It is idle to speak of our bearing a witness to the world, unless Christ comes to us in personal encounter. If this encounter does not produce Christian action we are indeed dead, but if we act outside of Christ we act in vain. We have not chosen Christ, but He has chosen us and appointed us to go forth and to bear fruit. This is the life of the Church.

This is evangelism--to show forth the piercing light of the Gospel, which re-creates God's world in judgment and love. Such a vocation is the highest calling for every Christian who has any real grasp of the dimension of Christian witness in a doomed world. Evangelism in this comprehensive sense is Christ's first commandment for the program and life of the new Church. This emphasis must permeate every agency and program of the Church. Let the steel of resolve, and fire of urgency impel the new Church to act, saying: "This one thing we do--proclaim the Gospel of Christ that all men may become Sons of God."

IV. To call upon the Agencies of the General Assembly of the new Church speedily to present to the Church the most urgent elements of their present programs to challenge the Church to significant advance in all areas of concern.

Having achieved union, let it be urged that the Church unitedly, through all its Agencies and upon careful review of past experience in their respective fields, act with deliberate speed to formulate the best

possible programs to offer the new Church, stimulating it to significant advance in the total area of its responsibility.

V. To call upon the Agencies and Judicatories of the Church to expedite a study and self analysis of current programs in the light of the urgent problems of the day, directed specifically toward the issues named in this Paper and in the Statement "In Unity--For Mission."

In the light of the general mission of the Church, and the prevailing materialistic practices of modern society it presses with the urgency of the first order that the Church make a thorough research and appraisal of her current programs. The Agencies of the General Assembly, and the Judicatories of the Church (Synods, Presbyteries, and Sessions) are called upon to give priority to a study and self analysis of their current programs in the light of the specific issues enumerated under II, and those dealt with in the Statement, "In Unity--For Mission." Let the findings of the Agencies of the General Assembly be submitted to the Long Range Planning Committee of the General Council for appraisal and recommendation.

In the case of Synods and Presbyteries the study results should be submitted for appraisal and recommendation to their respective Long Range Planning Committees or General Councils. In the case of Sessions, the study results should be submitted for appraisal and recommendation to their congregations.

Believing that the Church has both the resources and the organized channels for releasing into the world of our time basic and practical solutions of the multiple problems that plague us, let her rise in abounding faith in the Lord Jesus Christ to press the battle against all the forces of unrighteousness in the full and glad confidence of her ultimate, triumphant victory.

1958 Annual Reports

Alaska
Statistics

Narrative

Nelson Pk

Narrative

- Angoon
- ✓ Anhe Bay
- ✓ Craig - ~~Alwood~~ ⁽²⁾
- ✓ ✓ Haines
- ✓ ✓ Hoonah
- ✓ ✓ Hydaburg
- Jeneau, Merrill
- 2. Kake vacant (3.)
- 2/9/59 ✓ ✓ Tetchikan
- ✓ ✓ Klawock
- ✓ ✓ Kluwan
- 2. Metlakatla - acting mgr there
- ✓ ✓ Petersburg
- 2. Sifta ORE began 9/15
- Shagway
- ✓ ✓ Wenzell
- 2. Yakutat - vacant
- ✓ ✓ Princeton Hall
- ✓ Anna Jackman. { Nelson
Zigzag

10/5

Misc

Mr. Swanson.
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- ✓ Anchorage, Igarka
- ✓ Anchorage, Milleret
- ✓ Barrow
- 2. Big Delta (munro out; Bieffe subway)
- ✓ ✓ College, AK.
- ✓ Gambell
- ✓ Palmer
- ✓ Fairbelt Railroad
- ✓ Fairbank, Woodland Pk.
- ✓ ✓ Fairbank
- ✓ Fair. Highway
- Barrow, vacant
- ✓ Fairbairn
- 2. { Klawock there 10/15
- 2. { 11 - 2/26/59
- ✓ Fairbank, Trest
- ✓ Fairbank, Trest